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AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A coupling for a double tube comprising:
the coupling configured to connect with the double tube, the double tube comprising:
an outer tube for a first fluid to flow therethrough; and
an inner tube provided inside of the outer tube and having an end protruding from the outer tube, the inner tube for a second fluid to flow therethrough,
the coupling comprising a branched portion brazed to an end of the outer tube and brazed to an end of the inner tube, ~~with the end of the inner tube protruding outside through the branched portion, and~~
the branched portion formed as a curved tube having a curved portion, ~~and having an end joined to an end of the outer tube, wherein with the curved portion has having a through-hole for the inner tube to pass therethrough and a burr portion and wherein the inner tube protrudes through the through-hole and the burr portion contacts an outer peripheral surface of the inner tube.~~
2. (Cancelled).
3. (Currently Amended) A coupling according to claim 1,
wherein the branched portion has an end formed with an expanded radial portion configured to receive and axially position ~~axially~~ the outer tube.
4. (Original) A coupling according to claim 1, wherein the branched portion has an end having a distal end bent outwardly to form a brazing-material holding portion.

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5. (Currently Amended) ~~A coupling according to claim 1,~~ A coupling for a double tube comprising:
the coupling configured to connect with the double tube, the double tube comprising:
an outer tube for a first fluid to flow therethrough; and
an inner tube provided inside of the outer tube and having an end protruding from the outer tube, the inner tube for a second fluid to flow therethrough,
the coupling comprising a branched portion brazed to an end of the outer tube and brazed to an end of the inner tube, and
the branched portion formed as a curved tube having a curved portion wherein the curved portion has a through-hole and the inner tube protrudes through the through-hole and wherein the curved part portion has an inner surface formed with a stepped brazing-material holding portion configured to receive and support a ring-shaped brazing material fitted coaxially to the inner tube.
6. (Original) A coupling according to claim 1,
wherein the branched portion has an inner surface having a brazing-material layer thereon.
7. (Currently Amended) A coupling according to claim 1,
~~wherein the double tube has the inner tube movably inserted radially into the outer tube,~~
wherein the through-hole is positioned inner tube is positioned off-center from an inner path of the branched portion to avoid a region having a maximum extension in the curved portion.
8. (Withdrawn) A method of manufacturing a coupling for a double tube according to claim 1, comprising:

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bending a straight tube having an inner radial size larger than an outer radial size of an inner tube, to form a curved tube having a curved portion; and

inserting a punch member into an end of the curved tube for punching through the curved portion to form a through-hole for the inner tube to pass therethrough.

9. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 8,
wherein the punch member forms a burr portion on an outer surface of the curved portion, the burr portion being in contact with an outer peripheral surface of the inner tube.
10. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 8,
wherein the punch member forms an expanded radial portion at the end of the curved tube for receiving and positioning radially the outer tube.
11. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 8,
wherein the punch member bends outwardly a distal end of the end of the curved tube to form a brazing-material holding portion.
12. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 8,
wherein the punch member forms a stepped brazing-material supporting portion on an inner surface of the curved portion for receiving and supporting a ring-shaped brazing material fitted coaxially to the inner tube.
13. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 8, further comprising:
providing a brazing material on an inner surface of a branched portion;
inserting the inner tube and the outer tube in the branched portion; and
heating the brazing material to braze and fix the inner tube and the outer tube to the branched portion.

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14. (New) A coupling according to claim 5,
wherein the branched portion has an end formed with an expanded radial portion
configured to receive and axially position the outer tube.
15. (New) A coupling according to claim 5, wherein the branched portion has an end
having a distal end bent outwardly to form a brazing-material holding portion.
16. (New) A coupling according to claim 5,
wherein the branched portion has an inner surface having a brazing-material layer
thereon.
17. (New) A coupling according to claim 5,
wherein the inner tube is positioned off-center from an inner path of the branched
portion.